



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
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In Reply Refer To: 3809 (UTW011) UTU-89039 OCT 06 2014

OCT **07** 2014

Certified Mail No. - 7014 0150 0000 5867 7380 Return Receipt Requested

DIV. OF OIL, GAS & MINING

Greg Bennett Wellman Minerals Corporation 10688 S. Indigo Sky Way South Jordan, Utah 84095

Dear Mr. Bennett:

On August 12, 2014, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) received a Notice Modification from Wellman Minerals Corporation (Wellman Minerals) for the Rocking Chair/Brown Rock #7 exploration notice project site. On September 3, 2014, the BLM sent you a letter requesting additional information. On September 22, 2014, the BLM received a letter from Wellman Minerals that provided some of the additional information that the BLM requested. The letter states that Wellman Minerals is withdrawing most of the originally proposed modifications except for the reconfiguration of the approved disturbance area.

Consistent with the surface management regulations at 43 CFR 3809.311(a), the BLM has reviewed your Notice Modification to determine if it meets the content requirements at 43 CFR 3809.301(b). Based on our review, the following additional information is required from Wellman Minerals in order for the Notice Modification to be complete:

- 1. The term "portal" is used numerous times in your letter to describe the excavation at the site. Portal commonly refers to the surface entrance of a mine. Please clarify whether you will be conducting mining or production as part of your proposed activities. Mining and production activities, regardless of acreage disturbed, may not be conducted under a notice.
- 2. The September 3, 2014 letter from the BLM requested more detail for your schedule of operations. Your letter states that your project completion date "could be set to April 2017 without limit by virtue of acceptable update(s)". Please note that a Notice can only be accepted for work to be done in a 2-year period. Therefore, the proposed activity schedule should not exceed 2 years. If for some reason the work is not accomplished within two years, the Notice may be extended at its expiration date.

Your letter states that an approximately 20-25 ton stockpile of ore/material is present at the site and "shall be removed from site at the earliest possible date – most likely within the next 30-60 days". As previously stated by BLM, your existing Notice only describes stockpiling of overburden material. Therefore, if the ore stockpile is still present 90 days from the date of this letter, you will be required to submit rock characterization analysis of the stockpile material.

The September 22nd letter states that you are withdrawing your request to use the water well at your project site and will "address (and justify) the approval and use of the water well at a later time". The letter also states that you are in the process of preparing a Plan of Operations to conduct mining activities at the site. As previously stated by the BLM, the well was installed over 20 years ago without BLM authorization. Therefore, you will be required to submit an additional financial guarantee to cover the reclamation /closure of the well and associated fenced enclosure. If you do not, the BLM will require you to remove and reclaim the well.

Until a complete Notice Modification is filed with this office, the BLM is unable to determine if your proposed operations will result in unnecessary or undue degradation as defined under 43 CFR 3809.5. In addition, we are unable to make a determination as to the amount of the required financial guarantee.

Please submit the required information at your earliest convenience. Until we receive this information your Notice Modification cannot be processed and the proposed changes to your notice are <u>not</u> to take place. Conducting the proposed activities before filing an acceptable Notice Modification as required by 43 CFR 3809.21 is a prohibited act under 43 CFR 3809.605(b). Failure to suspend all unauthorized activities will result in enforcement action under 43 CFR 3809.601.

If you have any questions, or require additional information, please contact Stephen Allen of my staff at (801) 977-4360.

Sincerely,

Kevin E. Oliver District Manager

cc: UDOGM, Leslie Heppler, 1594 West No.Temple, Ste. #1210 P.O. Box 145801, SLC, UT 84114-5801

UDWR, Steve Slack, 1594 West No.Temple, Ste. #220, P.O. Box 146300, SLC, UT 84114-6300